The TEMPLE WEDDING;

Or, Love at Firſt Sight.

IN London fair city a young man and a maid,
Both went to the temple lately to be wed;
As they were going, young Nancy ſo fair
Came by, and went in to ſee them wed there.
A young merchant at that time chanc'd to come by,
And beautiful Nancy he chanced to ſpy;
And into the temple he follow'd them too,
And in Nancy's ear he began for to woo.
He call'd her his deareſt, and ſaid, now behold,
Here's a couple going—to have and to hold;
Now if thou art willing this minute to wed,
We two will make one—there no more to be ſaid.
Fair Nancy ſhe bluſhed, and thus did reply,
Yo banter me ſir, and I muſt deny:
No, no, I proteſt I will wed you this hour,
I thank you ſhe ſaid, but 'tis not in my power.
Why, are you already engaged to a man,
No, no, indeed ſir, as my name it is Nan;
But thou art a gentleman it ſeems to me,
And I but a ſervant of a mean degree.
I value not that then the merchant reply'd,
If thou wilt conſent, I will make you my bride;
Come here is the parſon, and I have the ring,
And I will maintain thee as fine as queen.
A match then kind ſir, if in earneſt you be,
I freely conſent, if you'll marry me;
And then hand-in-hand to the parſon they went,
Who wedded them ſtraight, to the merchant's content.
The parſon for wedding theſe two was well paid,
But the bride was in haſte, and would not be ſtaid:
Oh! where doſt thou live, the merchant cry'd,
That I may know where to find my bride.
In Cheapſide I live, at a merchant's houſe there,
And hope to ſee you when time you can ſpare;
He ſaluted her then, and a guinea did give,
Saying, I'll come to ſee you as ſure as I live.
She made him a courteſy, and thus did reply,
Then to ſee you, ſir, nothing would give me more joy;
Then homewards ſhe went, with ring and with token,
And took all the reſt for nothing but joking.
Now the very next week, on the royal exchange,
(For oftentimes merchant's do fall out moſt ſtrange)
Theſe merchants there met, and ſaluted each other;
And wondered of late they'd not ſeen one another.
The young merchant then to the old one ſaid,
The reaſon is, ſir, laſt week I was wed;
I wiſh you much joy then, the old one cry'd,
I hope you have got a rich beautiful bride.
And when ſhall I ſee your lady, I pray,
Be pleaſed to dine with us and name the day;
I thank you kind ſir, and all in good time,
My lady and I, will wait on you to dine.
I thank you kind ſir, the old man ſaid,
Give mine and my lady's reſpects to the bride;
I thank you kind ſir, whatever ſhe be;
A good word, I hope, ſhe'll gain of your lady.
In two days after the merchant went
To dine with the other, where, to his content,
He ſaw his bride, who knew not at that time,
It was he that wedded her came there to dine.
The old merchant's wife much joy did wiſh him,
And aſked why he did not her bring;
I thank you madam, ſhe'll wait on you here,
Tho' many times you have ſeen her here.
Indeed madam, I could have ſworn by my life,
E'er now to wait on you, had you been my wife;
For it is but reaſon, I own it is true,
That ſhe ſhould pay all due reſpects unto you.
Madam, my by buſineſs at this time is owing
Purely unto a ſhe country couſin,
That ſoon will coming to fair London town,
But firſt ſhe muſt have her rich clothing down.
Three hundred guineas ſhe ſent me indeed,
For to have her rich clothing made with ſpeed:
He ſaid I know her ſhape and ſize,
And your maid I think is her ſhape in my eyes.
Now madam if you the trouble will take,
For to buy theſe clothes for my couſin's ſake;
Here is three hundred guineas to by a brocade,
Let the tailor take meaſure by your maid.
If two hundred more ſhould be wanting to buy
Choice ſilks that ſhould happen to pleaſe your eye;
Lay it out, madam, and I will repay,
Let it be what it will, when I come next this way.
So taking his leave ſtraightway he did go,
But Nancy her lover again did not know:
So the lady bought the rich ſilks and brocades,
And the tailor took meaſure by her waiting maid.
With coach and ſix horſes away he did come,
And aſked the lady if the clothes were done;
She anſwered, yes, ſir, and the beſt I make bold,
That in London can be bought for ſilver and gold.
Yet, ſir, I am angry now on my life,
That you have not brought your new married wife;
Oh! madam, ſhe'll wait on you I dare ſay,
Before I happen to go hence away.
Dear madam, as the clothes for my couſin be done,
Shall I beg that your maid may put them on?
So that I may know how they on her do ſit,
And then I ſhall know if my couſin they'll fit.
Yes, ſir, I'll go up and get the maid dreſs'd,
I'll aſſure you I have bought all things of the beſt;
A away went the lady, and when they came down,
This lady excell'd all the roſes in June.
Cries the old merchant's lady, how like you the clothes,
They're well made, dear madam, and in them a roſe;
Nay, in them's a jewel, my ſoul, and my life,
I declare, now, dear madam, that this is my wife.
The company all did ſalute the bride round,
Saying, ſuch a beauty is not to be found:
She ſeem'd like a queen, like a ſaint was her voice,
And all the whole company pleas'd with the choice.
At the head of the table they placed the bride,
After dinner they'd muſic and dancing beſides;
At night will leave them in pleaſure of love,
Such as none can exceed but the powers above.

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